United Nations A/54/L.56

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 20 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Djibouti, France, India, Italy, Morocco, Namibia and Sudan: draft resolution

Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/1 J of December 1998 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[1] adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to the follow-up to that Conference,

Recalling also agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1999,[2]

Conscious that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 157th and out of the 174 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 1999*,[3]

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts and torrential rains and floods, such as those that occurred in October and November 1997, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources that exceed the capacity of the country,

[1] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI.

[3] New York, Oxford University Press, 1999.

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Emphasizing that there is an urgent need to provide financial support in the areas of demobilization, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the regions affected by civil strife with a view to strengthening peace and stability in the country,

Noting that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the deteriorating situation in the Horn of Africa, in particular Somalia, and noting also the presence of tens of thousands of refugees and persons displaced from their countries, which has placed serious strains on the fragile economic, social and administrative infrastructure of Djibouti and caused security problems in the country, in particular in the city of Djibouti,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is continuing to implement a structural adjustment programme, and convinced of the necessity to support that financial recovery programme and to take effective measures to alleviate the consequences, in particular the social consequences, of that adjustment policy, so that the country may achieve lasting economic results,

Noting with gratitude the support provided to relief and rehabilitation operations by various countries and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti;[4]

2. *Declares* its solidarity with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources, harsh climatic conditions and the continuing critical situation in the Horn of Africa;

3. *Notes with concern* the cyclical drought phenomenon in Djibouti, including the current severe drought that is causing major humanitarian disaster to tens of thousands of people, particularly those who are vulnerable, and requests the international community to respond urgently to the appeal launched by the Government;

4. *Encourages* the Government of Djibouti despite difficult economic and regional situations to continue its serious efforts towards the consolidation of democracy;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of a structural adjustment programme by Djibouti, and in that context appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country;

6. *Considers* that the process of demobilization, reintegration and employment of demobilized soldiers is essential not only for national rehabilitation but also for the success of agreements with international financial institutions and for the consolidation of peace, and that it requires substantial resources that exceed the capacity of the country;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the States and intergovernmental organizations that have already fulfilled their pledges at the round table on Djibouti held at Geneva on 29 and 30 May 1997;

8. *Also expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and especially to the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the other funds and programmes of the Untied Nations system, for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti;

[4] A/54/153-E/1999/93

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.